[*Translation*]

Availability of Coal

2484. SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity in metric tonnes of pure coal as per the prescribed quantity and specifications available as on 15-7-91 in the B.C.C.L. and the C.C.L. of Coal India Limited;

(b) the extent of stocks at each of the mines; and

(c) the grades of coal stocks at each of the mines; and its grade-wise total value?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and to the extent possible will be laid on the Table of the House.

Extension of Pipeline of Natural Gas from Kakinada to Paradip

2485. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pipeline for supply fo natural gas from Godavari Basin in Andhra Pradesh has been extended upto Kakinada;

(b) whether the Government of Orissa has requested the Union Government for extending the pipeline from Kakinada to Paradip in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) A gas transportation pipeline is being laid from Tatipaka to Kakinada.

(b) and (c). No such specific request seems to have been received in the Ministry.

Soviet Trade Mission at New Delhi

2486. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:
SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soviet Trade Mission in New Delhi is being closed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the alternative arrangement/proposed to be made to maintain and strengthen and trade between the two countries;

(c) whether the information department of the Soviet Embassy is likely to be reopened; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). At its meeting on 14th November 1991, the USSR State Council decided, inter alia, that in connection with the delegation of economic functions to the Soviet Ministry of External Relations, Departments of Economic Policy are to set up in the USSR Embassies. Further, the USSR Trade representations would be abolished. However, insofar as the Soviet Trade Representation in India is concerned, Government have received no formal communication, so far, regarding its closure from the Soviet authorities.

(c) and (d). Government of India's information is that the Information and Cultural departments of the Soviet Embassy have